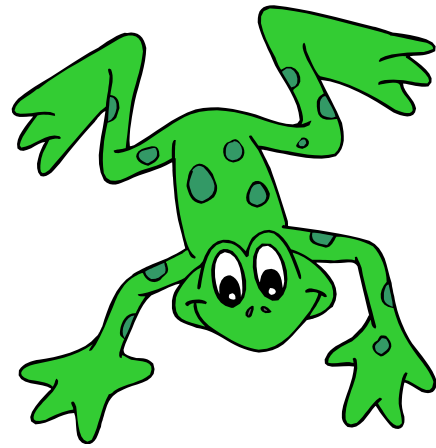


# First Grade Leaps Into Learning

November 5, 2010



## *Assured Readiness for Learning / Reading News*

We had a short but busy week learning to read! To review what we learned this past week, ask your child the following questions (*correct answers provided*): What keys did you learn to read (*in* and *ash*)?

Next week we will work on the letters and sounds for *w* and *j*. Our new keys will be *ig*, *ing*, *ab*, and *ob*. The "circle words" will be *will*, *with*, *was*, *could*, *friends*, *new*, *use*, *gives* and *night*. Those are some difficult words that cannot be easily sounded out. Good readers need to have an extensive sight word vocabulary to become independent readers with good comprehension skills.

Nightly homework should include reviewing/practicing the words on the lists of circle words, reading and spelling the keys, and rereading key stories.

## *Math News*

This week we began to work on basic subtraction facts to 10. We started with facts written in horizontal form. We told stories, illustrated them, and wrote the equation for the story (Math SOL 1.5, 1.6). We also used the "cross out" strategy to show what is "taken away".

Next week we will continue to review and practice basic addition and subtraction facts to 10. Again, your child will be expected to show mastery of basic subtraction facts to 18 by the end of the year.

A set of flash cards has been provided for you to use to practice basic addition and subtraction facts to 6. Students are expected to develop fluency with basic number combinations (Math SOL 1.5).

The first timed facts to 6 test will be November 16. The goal is speed and accuracy!

**PRACTICE! PRACTICE! PRACTICE!**

## *Science and Social Studies News*

This week in Social Studies, we have been learning about the past, present, future, changes and how a time line shows changes over time.

Ask these questions to review what we've studied this week:

- ✓ Are past and present times different or the same?
- ✓ What do we call something that happens to make things different? (change)
- ✓ What changes will you probably see in the future?
- ✓ Past or Present? Communities were small with fewer people.
- ✓ Past or Present? Schools are large buildings with many rooms.
- ✓ Past or Present? Families buy food in stores, have electronic games, and microwaves.
- ✓ Past or Present? People moved about by walking, riding horses, or riding in wagons.
- ✓ What can you use to show a sequence of events? (a time line)

Next week we will conclude our study of the past, present, future, changes and how a time line shows changes over time (Soc. St. SOL 1.1) and review what we have been learning about during the first advisory. Students will take math, science and social studies "Benchmark" tests assessing mastery of facts, skills and concepts covered during the first advisory.

## *Helping Your Child at Home*

The following are some suggestions for parents to consider doing to help their children do well in school:

- ✓ Provide time and a quiet place to read and do homework.
- ✓ Read a variety of material -- especially nonfiction.
- ✓ Be firm about times to get up and go to bed.
- ✓ Have dinner together and discuss the day.
- ✓ Set limits on TV watching.
- ✓ Demonstrate that achievement comes from working hard.
- ✓ Recognize, encourage, and celebrate special talents and achievements.

## *Important Dates in November*

- 11 - End of First Advisory
- 18 - Report Card Day
- 24 - Early Release at 1:00 for holiday
- 25-26 - NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Vacation

